

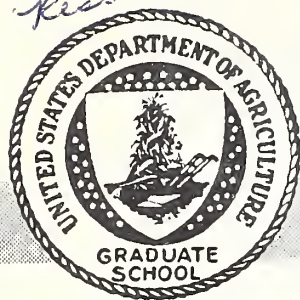
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# Newsletter

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

August 31, 1956

To the Faculty, Committee Members and  
others associated with the Graduate School:

The committee for the annual faculty dinner, September 12, has followed the advice to a bride and included "something old and something new" in plans for this year's event.

The old is our meeting place. We are returning to the fourth wing cafeteria in Agriculture where the first of these faculty dinners was held ten years ago. I am sure you will agree with the committee that there are three advantages to this location. It is convenient. The food is good. The price is reasonable (about \$2.00 for a roast beef dinner).

The innovation is in the committee's choice of a woman speaker. We have heard talks by a number of outstanding men in the field of higher education. Now we are to hear a distinguished writer on public affairs. She is Helen Hill Miller, a frequent contributor to *HARPERS*, *COLLIERS*, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, *THE VIRGINIA QUARTERLY REVIEW* and similar periodicals.

Trained in economics at the University of Chicago and Oxford, Mrs. Miller served for a period as a writer on economics in the Department of Agriculture. Since that time she has been a member of the Washington bureau of *NEWSWEEK* and Washington representative of *THE LONDON ECONOMIST*.

Her ability as a thoughtful and witty speaker made her a popular president of the Women's National Press Club this past year. It was recognized by St. Anne's College, Oxford, in June when she was invited to give the Gaudy Night address at her alma mater.

In addition to hearing a stimulating talk, we can look forward to an opportunity to renew acquaintance with old friends on the faculty and to meet the new teachers. We plan to arrange seating by the various Graduate School Departments and we are asking the Department heads to introduce faculty and committee members.

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What can the Graduate School contribute in the retraining of Federal employees now being displaced on a small scale by automation but likely to

be displaced in an increasing number of jobs over the next few years? This was one of the provocative questions raised at a luncheon (one in a series of three) we held this past month for training officers of the various Federal departments and related agencies.

In commenting on our recognition of this problem, Asst. Director O. B. Conaway pointed out that we have pioneered in the organization of classes in programming computers. This does not mean that the man whose job is being taken over by the machine will be interested or able to take this work and qualify for a post as a computer program specialist. It does mean that the automatic devices replacing men in one type of work are opening opportunities for others. It suggests the need for much more highly trained workers in government to fill the jobs of the future. And it underscores the importance of continuing education for Federal workers.

Along with this question there were others from personnel training officers that pointed to new problems arising in government and the need for new courses to prepare workers for service in new fields.

I feel sure that each of 119 training officers who were our guests for these luncheons will agree with those of us on the Graduate School staff that all of us gained something from these discussions.

We welcomed the opportunity first of all to hear about problems now being faced in training throughout government. And then we took advantage of this opportunity to present a brief outline of our plans for the coming year. This gave Registrar Louise Malone a chance to report that our program leading to a certificate of accomplishment in editing is complete. She also mentioned six other courses of interest: Principles of Sample Design and Analysis in Agricultural Surveys; Federal Fiscal Procedure; Meteorology for Non-Professionals; Principles of Physical Science; Family Finance; and Graphic Arts in Federal Government.

Honor Guests at the luncheons were members of the Graduate School General Administration Board. C. O. Henderson presided. Under-Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse observed that there are two ways to get good people. One is to go out and find them wherever they may be. The other is to try to locate young people with a potential for growth and then watch them grow and develop in stature on the job and move them up in the organization.

Dr. Earl Butz, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, concluded the luncheon program on a note of inspiration with his outline of the factors in the equation that makes America great. These are (1) our wealth of natural resources, (2) the hybrid vigor of our population, (3) our religious concepts with roots going back to Judeo-Christian traditions, (4) our democratic form of government, (5) and our system of education that seeks to develop brainpower in every head. Four of the terms in this equation, he noted, are relatively fixed. There is only one variable--education. This can be and is being enormously expanded. The tremendous emphasis on adult education is an important part of the picture. Education holds the key to American greatness in the future.

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There's a bit of impulse buying in the book business, according to Vera Jensen of the Graduate School bookstore. Her comment was stimulated by the reaction to an impulse of her own -- to list AS I SEE IT, a book of 50 essays by Warner W. Stockberger, in the announcement of Graduate School publications in public administration that she drew up for our most recent publication, DEMOCRACY IN FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION. The result was a little flurry of sales for the Stockberger book, published in 1941.

### AMONG OURSELVES

The January issue of TODAY'S SPEECH will carry an article by Frank Dance on "Improving Professional Speaking" that describes work in Mr. Dance's class for physicians at NIH. Mr. Dance, who has served on the Graduate School faculty for the past two years, will have one more semester with us before he completes his Army service and returns to Northwestern University where he is earning a PH. D.

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A noted American artist, Yuen Yuey Chinn, is joining the staff of the Graduate School this fall to teach the course, Grammar of Art: Drawing and Painting. Mr. Chinn is a graduate of the School of Painting and Sculpture, Columbia University. He has recently completed study under a John Hay Whitney Fellowship, and in 1954-55 studied in Italy with a Fulbright Fellowship. Mr. Chinn's work has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the University of Minnesota, the University of Pennsylvania, and in galleries in Italy, Switzerland, and France.

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One of our most popular language instructors, Fernando Romero, is leaving Washington to return to his native Peru. Mr. Romero has been teaching Intermediate Spanish for the Graduate School since 1951. Dr. Marjorie Johnston, Specialist for Foreign Languages, Office of Education, and a member of the Graduate School Spanish faculty since 1942, will take over Mr. Romero's teaching assignment.

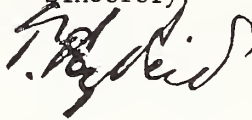
A back injury that has led to a medical discharge from military service has made it necessary for Philip Roth to resign his post as instructor in Feature Writing. In his letter of resignation, Mr. Roth told us that one of his stories will appear in the forthcoming BEST AMERICAN SHORT STORIES of 1956 to be published by Houghton-Mifflin this fall.

"Our central problem is one of planning the policies of a great nation, spanning a continent, and composed of people of a wide range of interests and cultural heritages. By its Constitution it is committed to have its policies representative, not the product of a privileged few. But even the constituted law-makers cannot reach the whole scope of policy. Conditions to which their intent is to be applied are so varied, and may change so rapidly, that discretion within the general clauses of the statute must be left to the executive."

This quotation from "Public Participation in Federal Programs", by Professor John M. Gaus of Harvard, set the stage for discussions on DEMOCRACY IN FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION, the Jump-McKillop memorial lectures in public administration in 1955. Participants were Dr. Gaus, Herbert Emmerich, director of the Public Administration Clearing House, Professor Arthur Macmahon of Columbia, James R. Wiggins, managing editor of the Washington Post, and Professor Wallace S. Sayre of Columbia.

The lectures have been brought together in an 80-page paper bound book edited by O. B. Conaway Jr., and published by the Graduate School. The book expresses current thinking on five important aspects of public administration by distinguished students of government. The price is \$1.25. Copies may be obtained from Miss Vera Jensen of the Graduate School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Roy Reid", written in a cursive style.

T. Roy Reid  
Director